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SOURCE Kung-shang Jih-pao.

REPORT USSR HAS ATOM BOMB
CITE BOMB EFFECTS ON CITIES

USSR PRODUCES ATOM BOMB -- Kung-shang Jih-pao, 27 Jul 49

Paris, 25 July 1949 (AF) -- The Samedi Soir on 25 July 1949 carried a copyrighted article reporting that on 10 July 1949 the USSR exploded its first atomic bomb. This information was the real reason for the conference between Truman and high atomic energy officials at Blair House. It is said that this atomic bomb was exploded in Siberia near 46 degrees east longitude and 53 degrees north latitude. This may be at Saratov, 500 kilometers north of Stalingrad.

According to the article, a German scientist, Is-k'e-erh-te, [Chinese approximation], who once worked in a factory in the Urals, at the end of June 1949 reported to the British Intelligence Department in Berlin that the USSR already had the atomic bomb. On 4 July 1949 an artillery officer, Fo-t'o-pi-an-no-fu [Chinese approximation], confirmed this news. The US Seismograph Bureau on 10 July 1949 clearly detected the explosion of the three atomic bombs in Siberia.

This magazine is recognized as being anti-Soviet; the source of its information was not disclosed.

[This article was also carried by the Kuan-ch'a Pao in K'un-ming, 26 July 1949 (Central News Agency). In this version, British intelligence was not mentioned. The German informant reported in Berlin that the USSR had ten atomic bombs. The Russian artillery officer was given the rank of captain.]

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NEW ATOM BOMB INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC SINCE JULY 27, 1949
(from July 1949 Readers Digest)

The secret of the atomic bomb has been preserved for nearly 4 years. Now US scientists, without violating security laws, have revealed more information and in greater detail.

The atomic bomb may be compared to a tennis ball in size and weighs about 30 pounds. Present production is about one a week. Each bomb costs about one million US dollars.

The ex-ambassador to the USSR, Lieutenant General Smith, believes that the USSR already knows all there is to be known about the scientific techniques involved in producing the atomic bomb.

Dr Lapp in his book "Must We Hide" discusses at length the probable results of an atomic bomb attack on America or on an enemy. Dr Lapp observed the two experiments with atomic bombs at Bikini. He is an expert on the protection of cities from atomic attacks. Here are some of his more important conclusions:

1. The atomic bomb is a source of great peril to America because of her large cities, where large numbers of men and industries are concentrated. America's skyscrapers are almost the best possible targets. However, the account of many bombs being smuggled into the US to destroy her big cities is not worthy of credence.
2. The placing of bombs in harbors for underwater explosion, using the spread of radioactivity to destroy cities, cannot be carried out. America's harbors do not have water deep enough to produce Bikini-type explosions. The deepest parts of their channels have depths of only 30 - 40 feet, while at Bikini Atoll there was a depth of 175 feet. The radioactive possibilities of underwater explosions in America's harbors are therefore relatively slight. At most they could damage only a few streets.
3. If atomic bombs were smuggled into the US and exploded on the surface or underground, they could cause only partial destruction. The explosive force would be effective for only 500 feet.
4. The theory of exploding the atomic bomb over a city and scattering radioactive matter is not to be believed. The scattering of atomic dust must be in tremendous quantity if it is to have any effectiveness, and must be accurately discharged over the target area. Also, these materials cannot be stockpiled. Radioactive warfare therefore is not practical.
5. Within 4,000 feet of its point of explosion, an atomic bomb can kill men by radioactivity. If a bomb is exploded in mid-air, however, its radioactivity is not sufficient to harm those who arrive after the explosion to carry out rescue work. If exploded beneath the sea, its radioactivity does not extend to the exterior. The warships used in the Bikini tests were not destroyed because they were radioactive, but because, being obsolete, they were not worth the effort necessary to eliminate the radioactivity.
6. Explosions such as those at Hiroshima and Nagasaki represent a great danger to America. An atomic bomb explosion over the municipal auditorium in Chicago would kill all the people in that vicinity. A bomb exploded over New York would cost the lives of 200,000 persons. Large buildings in the vicinity would collapse. People under the ground, however, would not be hurt by flying fragments or radioactivity even if they suffered a direct hit.

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Atomic bombs attacking any American city would cause 100,000 casualties. Of course the best target is where the population is dense.

The safest place in the event of atomic attack is underground. It would perhaps be too expensive to build cities and industrial plants underground, but a complete warning system, plus inexpensive shelters, could probably prevent 90 percent of the casualties.

In an atomic bomb explosion, aluminum shelters provide the best cover, but these are too expensive. Windowless concrete shelters with walls 32 inches thick can protect life at a distance of 1,000 feet. At 2,000 feet wall thickness must be 20 inches, and at 4,000 feet 6 inches. At 5,000 feet no shelter is needed for survival.

There are also certain other limitations on the use of atomic bombs in warfare.

1. In repelling land attack, atomic bombs are of little value. They can only block enemy operations for a few thousands yards of the front, which may extend hundreds of miles in length. Also, the immense cost sharply limits their supply.

2. Against naval craft, submarines, and other small targets, they cost more than they are worth and as yet small-size atomic bombs are not made. -- Hsi Meng /a pen name which may be translated as West Mongolia./

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